

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-6. (canceled)

Claim 7. (currently amended) A picture encoding apparatus comprising:

memory means for writing and storing an input picture from one line to another;

wavelet transform means for applying a wavelet transform in the horizontal and vertical directions each time a number of lines required for the wavelet transform is stored in said memory means; thereby generating wavelet transform coefficients for a plurality of sub-bands;

quantization means for quantizing wavelet transform coefficients for each sub-band obtained from said wavelet transform means;

block picture analysis means for analyzing the motion information in a block picture and the degree of fineness of the texture for each block area in said input picture; and

entropy encoding means for entropy encoding quantized coefficients for each sub-band from said quantization means in units of block areas when the number of samples of said ~~quantization~~ quantized coefficients has reached the size of a block area required for entropy encoding;

wherein said quantization means includes means for determining ultimate weighting coefficients for ~~quantization~~ quantizing using both a table of weighting coefficients for each sub-band generated at the time of the wavelet transform and weighting coefficients for each block area derived from the analyzed motion information.

Claim 8. (original) The picture encoding apparatus according to claim 7 further comprising: means for computing weighting coefficients for quantization of said block picture area using the analysis information from said block picture analysis means.

Claim 9. (original) The picture encoding apparatus according to claim 7 wherein said quantization means includes means for determining ultimate weighting coefficients for quantization using both sub-band based table weighting coefficients and weighting coefficients derived from said analysis information.

Claim 10. (canceled)

Claim 11. (previously presented) The picture encoding apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said entropy encoding means resolve quantization coefficients in said block into bit planes composed of binary data and executes arithmetic encoding depending on the occurrence probability distribution of symbols in each bit plane, and wherein the estimation of said probability distribution is performed only on data in a predetermined block.

Claim 12. (original) The picture encoding apparatus according to claim 7 wherein said input picture is split into a plurality of rectangular tiles and written in said memory means.

Claim 13. (original) The picture encoding apparatus according to claim 7 wherein said input picture is a continuous picture of a plurality of frames and wherein the input continuous picture is sequentially encoded from one frame to another.

Claims 14-24. (canceled)

Claim 25. (currently amended) A picture encoding method comprising:

a storage step of writing and storing an input picture in memory means from one line to another;

a wavelet transform step of applying a wavelet transform in the horizontal and vertical directions each time a number of lines required for the wavelet transform is stored in said memory means; thereby generating wavelet transform coefficients for a plurality of sub-bands;

a quantization step of quantizing wavelet transform coefficients for each sub-band obtained from said wavelet transform step;

a block picture analysis step of analyzing the motion information in a block picture and the degree of fineness of the texture for each block area in said input picture; and

an entropy encoding step of entropy encoding quantized coefficients for each sub-band from said quantization step in units of block areas when the number of samples of said ~~quantization~~ quantized coefficients has reached the size of a block area required for entropy encoding;

wherein said quantization step determines ultimate weighting coefficients for ~~quantization~~ quantizing using both a table of weighting coefficients for each sub-band generated at the time of the wavelet transform and weighting coefficients for each block area derived from the analyzed motion information.

Claims 26-27. (canceled)